

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 /059 W

-----280116Z 016412 /22

R 271623Z APR 77

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3626

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, AS

SUBJECT: EC-AUSTRALIAN RELATIONS

1. ACCORDING TO AUSTRALIAN AND EC COMMISSION SOURCES, BRIEF VISIT APRIL 22 OF AUSTRALIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ANTHONY WAS IN NATURE OF A RECONNAISSANCE FOR PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP HERE SCHEDULED FOR MID-JUNE AND FOR ANTHONY'S VISIT TO THE U.S. NEXT WEEK. ANTHONY SAW GUIDO BRUNNER, COMMISSIONER IN CHARGE OF ENERGY AND THEO HIJZEN, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS.

2. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH EC OFFICIALS, ANTHONY IS REPORTED TO HAVE COMPLAINED THAT EC IMPORT BARRIERS, PARTICULARLY ON AGRICULTURE, ARE TOO HIGH. HE ALSO INDICATED AUSTRALIAN WILLINGNESS TO REMAIN A SUPPLIER OF RAW MATERIALS, INCLUDING COAL, TO THE EC. ANTHONY INDICATED THAT QUESTION OF URANIUM EXPORTS WILL NOT BE DECIDED UNTIL RELEASE OF THE SECOND HALF OF THE FOX REPORT. SHOULD AUSTRALIA RESUME URANIUM EXPORTS, ANTHONY SAID IT WOULD BE UNDER "STRINGENT SAFEGUARDS" REQUIREMENTS. ALTHOUGH COMMISSION OFFICIALS TOLD US THAT THESE WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE AS STIFF AS THOSE BEING REQUESTED BY CANADA IN ITS CURRENT RENEGOTIATIONS OF URANIUM SUPPLY

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ARRANGEMENTS, AUSTRALIAN MISSION OFFICERS STATED THAT ANTHONY MADE NO COMPARISONS WITH THE CANADIAN NEGOTIATIONS EXCEPT TO POINT OUT TO THE EC THAT THE EC-CANADIAN DIFFICULTIES OVER EXPORT OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY WOULD NOT ARISE SINCE AUSTRALIA HAS NO TECHNOLOGY TO EXPORT.

3. BRUNNER SUGGESTED THAT AUSTRALIANS CONSIDER DESIRABILITY OF

CONCLUDING A FRAMEOWRK AGREEMENT WITH EC ALONG THE LINES OF EC-CANADA AGREEMENT. BRUNNER, ACCORDING TO DG-I OFFICIALS, WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY AT THIS POINT, THERE BEING NO COMMISSION POSITION IN FAVOR OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT. IN PRELIMINARY REACTION, ANTHONY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN A FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE USED TO RESOLVE AUSTRALIAN COMPLAINTS ABOUT LIMITED ACCESS FOR ITS AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS (ESPECIALLY BEEF) TO THE EC.

4. DG-I OFFICIALS TELL US THEY CONSIDER THE FRAMEWORK APPROACH A NON-STARTER. HIJZEN MADE IT CLEAR TO ANTHONY THAT THE EC-CANADA AGREEMENT HAS NO AGRICULTURAL PROVISIONS AND THAT THE EC WOULD NOT BE WILLING TO CONCLUDE AN AGREEMENT WITH AGRICULTURAL PROVISIONS WITH AUSTRALIA. DG-I PLANS TO POUR MORE COLD WATER ON BRUNNER'S SUGGESTION IN WEEKS REMAINING BEFORE FRASER VISIT. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY OFFICERS HERE ALSO BELIEVE NOTHING WILL COME OF THE IDEA OR IF IT SHOULD BE PICKED UP LATER, IT WOULD REQUIRE AT LEAST TWO YEARS TO NEGOTIATE. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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